

REMARKS

Claims 1-295 are pending in the application.

Claims 264 and 274-290 have been canceled.

The cancellation of claims 274-290 are a result of the restriction requirement imposed by the examiner in the Office Action mailed August 13, 2004 as being part of the Group II set of claims. The Applicant, with traverse, provisionally elects the Group I set of claims for prosecution on the merits. The August 13, 2004 Office Action had also specified that claims 291-294 were in Group II. However, claims 291-294 properly belong to Group I, as they are dependent upon independent claims within Group I. During a teleconference, the examiner and Applicant's attorney agreed claims 291-294 belong in Group I. Consequently, only claims 274-290 properly belong to Group II and have been canceled accordingly.

All amendments and remarks are made in a good faith effort to advance the prosecution on the merits.

Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments submitted herein be entered, and further requests reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.


SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks and amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding restriction requirement are respectfully requested. It is further submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, as below.

Applicant believes that a fee is due for the cancellation of claims in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fee is due, including any fees for any extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this response as a Petition therefore, and directs that any fees be charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. **Deposit Account Number 02-0383, Order Number 065734.0139**

Respectfully Submitted,

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